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TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY

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TAGS: SHUM, PA, UY

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN
PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ASKED TO
TESTIFY AUGUST 4 BEFORE THE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE
HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY. WE HAVE
BEEN ASKED TO PROVIDE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

QUOTE. A LEGAL AND FACTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUS OF
HUMAN RIGHTS IN URUGUAY WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

A. THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE ABOVE-
MENTIONED COUNTRIES (THE TERM "POLITICAL PRISONERS" MEANS
PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN DETAINED, ARRESTED OR PUNISHED FOR
THEIR BELIEFS OR OPINIONS, BUT WHO HAVE NEITHER USED NOR
ADVOCATED VIOLENCE). HOW MANY OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS
H'VE BEEN TRIED; HOW MANY CONVICTED; AND WHAT HAVE BEEN

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THEIR SENTENCES?

B. THE LENGTH OF TIME POLITICAL PRISONERS ARE DETAINED WITHOUT BEING CHARGED AND TRIED FOR OFFENSES. THE ACCESS TO LAWYERS AND FAMILY TO POLITICAL PRISONERS DURING THE PERIOD OF THEIR DETAINMENT.

C. TO WHAT EXTENT HAVE POLITICAL PRISONERS EXPERIENCED TORTURE OR OTHER FORMS OF MISTREATMENT? WHAT HAVE THESE GOVERNMENTS DONE TO PREVENT THE PRACTICE OF TORTURE? HOW MANY PERSONS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF PRACTICING TORTURE?

D. THE EXTENT TO WHICH DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES ARE BEING FOLLOWED IN ARREST, DETENTION AND TRIAL OF POLITICAL PRISONERS;

E. HAVE THERE BEEN INCIDENTS OF THE ARBITRARY TAKING OF LIFE EITHER OF PERSONS IMPRISONED OR PERSONS NOT IN PRISON? REGARDING THE LATTER SITUATION, TO WHAT EXTENT HAS THE GOVERNMENT BEEN IMPLICATED OR TOLERATED THESE INCIDENTS AND HAS IT TAKEN MEASURES TO PREVENT THESE ACTS?

F. FREEDOM OF OPINION AND EXPRESSION, INCLUDING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS;

G. THE RIGHTS OF TRADE UNIONS;

H. FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO FORM POLITICAL PARTIES.

2. HAS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO THESE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS? WHAT HAS - BEEN THE RESPONSE OF THESE GOVERNMENTS?

3. FOR FISCAL YEARS 1976 AND 1977, WHAT IS URUGUAY AND PARAGUAY RECEIVING IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 502B OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT)? WHAT KINDS OF SECURITY PURPOSES IS THE ASSISTANCE SUPPOSED TO PROVIDE? HOW DOES THE DEPARTMENT APPLY SECTION 502B OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT WITH RESPECT TO THESE COUNTRIES? DOES THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ANY OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THESE COUNTRIES TO HAVE ANY BEARING ON THE KINDS AND AMOUNTS OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE WHICH IT PROVIDES TO EITHER OF THESE COUNTRIES FOR FISCAL YEARS 1976 AND 1977?

4. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR URUGUAY AND PARAGUAY. DOES THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SECTION 116 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT (HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE) APPLICABLE TO THESE COUNTRIES?

ARE ALL THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR THESE COUNTRIES DIRECTLY BENEFICIAL TO NEED PEOPLE? UNQUOTE

4. PREVIOUS EMBASSY REPORTS WILL BE USED AS BASIS OF DEPARTMENT RESPONSE. ANY ADDITIONAL EMBASSY COMMENT, SUGGESTIONS, OR UPDATE OF PREVIOUS REPORTS ARE WELCOME. RESPONSES, IF ANY, SHOULD BE SENT BY JULY 26.

5. FOR ASUNCION: SPECIFIC REPORT OR COMMENT ON FOLLOWING QUESTIONS REQUESTED BY JULY 26. HAVE CHASE-SARDI'S I.D. DOCUMENTS BEEN RETURNED TO HIM? IS ANYTHING KNOWN OF HIS FUTURE PLANS? ARE THERE INDICATIONS THAT THE THREE PROJECT MARANDU PERSONNEL ARRESTED ALONG WITH CHASE-SARDI WILL SOON BE RELEASED? HAS THE CONSEJO INDIGENA RECEIVED LEGAL STANDING? WHAT ARE PROSPECTS FOR FOUR FRIENDSHIP MISSION PERSONNEL BEING RELEASED? ROBINSON

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